

REMARKS

The claims have been amended to clarify them and to distinguish the invention more clearly from the prior art.

Claim rejections – 35 USC §102

The original claims were rejected under 35 USC §102 as anticipated by Donohue et al. U.S. Patent Number 5,987,480 (hereinafter referred to as '480). However, it is respectfully submitted that the invention as defined in the amended claims is clearly patentably distinguished from this reference.

The present invention relates to a computerized method, computer system and program product for partially rendering an input document in a first coded form, containing explicit pairs of tags and end tags. The input document is parsed to generate an alternative representation of the template in a second coded form in which end tags are implicit. The alternative representation is then truncated by removing parts subsequent to a specified point. The truncated alternative representation is then used to generate an output document in the first coded form, including any explicit end tags necessary to ensure that the output document is well-formed.

For example, in the preferred embodiment, the input document is an HTML document, including explicit tag/end-tag pairs such as <table>...</table>, <tr>...</tr> etc. as shown on page 10 of the description. This input document is converted into a tree representation such as shown in Figure 4, in which no end tags appear: the end tags are implicit in this representation. The tree representation is then truncated, by removing the portion to the right of the path shown in bold in Figure 4. The truncated tree is then converted back to a well-formed HTML document, including the necessary explicit end tags, as shown on page 11 of the description.

'480 describes a method for delivering web page documents, using document templates containing dynamic content tags. When a request is received from a user for a particular document, at least some of the document content is retrieved and the document template is

populated by substituting values corresponding to the dynamic content tags. The resulting customized document is then delivered to the user. The customized content may be based on the identity of the user, so that the document is individualized to the user's interests and needs.

However, it is respectfully submitted that there is absolutely no suggestion in '480 of converting a document from a first coded form to a second coded form in which end tags are implicit. For example, in Figure 2 of '480, and in the Appendix of '480, the end tags (</td>, </tr> etc) are clearly explicit. Moreover, there is no suggestion in '480 of truncating such a converted representation, and no suggestion of converting the truncated representation back into the first coded form in which the end tags are again explicit.

Hence, it is submitted that '480 does not teach or suggest anything remotely similar to the present invention, and that the present invention is therefore clearly patentably distinguished from this reference.

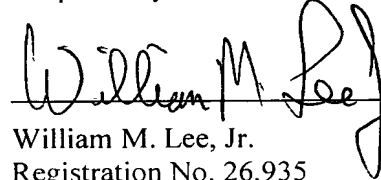
The other references have been carefully reviewed, but are not considered relevant to the present invention as claimed.

Conclusion

In summary, it is submitted that this application is now clearly in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully solicited.

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Respectfully Submitted

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William M. Lee, Jr.", written over a horizontal line.

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